

AMENDMENT

Kindly amend the application, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the Abstract with the following:

A process for hydrotreating a hydrocarbon feedstock (1) involving the use of at least one hydrotreatment, particularly hydrodesulfurization, reactor (2) and a fractionation unit (3), which latter contains two distinct injection zones (4, 5) for the hydrocarbon feedstocks, a common zone (8) of vaporization of the light fractions and two distinct draw-off lines (6, 7) for the liquid bottoms; the hydrocarbon feedstock (1) being subjected to a preliminary treatment either in a first hydrodesulfurization reactor (20) the operating conditions of which (P, T, LHSV) may be different from those of the hydrotreatment reactor (2), or in a sweetening apparatus or else in a sulfur trap, the hydrocarbon feedstock being then injected into the first injection zone (4) of the fractionation unit (3), the liquid bottoms being removed through the draw-off line (6) of the injection zone (4) and passed into a hydrotreatment reactor (2), the effluents from said reactor (2) being injected into a second injection zone (5) of the fractionation unit (3), the light fractions leave the common zone (8) through an evacuation line (11), and the heavy liquid bottoms of the second injection zone (5) being removed through the corresponding draw-off line (7). Also apparatus for carrying out this process.